

09/800,163

MS150965.01/MSFTP115US

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium having computer executable instructions for utilizing a workflow scheduler graphical user interface program, comprising:  
a first screen area employed to create a graphical representation of a business workflow process; ~~and~~  
a second screen area employed to bind the graphical representation of a business workflow process to at least one technological component; ~~and~~  
a workflow component menu including a plurality of workflow components employed to create a business workflow process in the first screen area, the plurality of workflow components comprising at least one action component for defining actions in a business workflow process and at least one action grouping component for grouping the at least one action component.
2. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 1, further including a separator bar separating the first screen area from the second screen area.
- 3-4. (Canceled)
5. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 1 4, the at least one action grouping component being a role component.
6. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 1 4, the at least one action grouping component being a transaction component.
7. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 6, further including an editable transaction property screen employed to relate catch code and compensation code to the transaction component.

09/800,163

MS150965.01/MSFTP115US

8. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 1 3, the plurality of workflow components comprising at least one decision component for providing decision control flow to the business workflow process.
9. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 8, further including an editable decision component property screen employed to add and delete rules to the decision component.
10. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 9, further including an editable rule property screen employed to define the rules added to the decision component.
11. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 1 3, the plurality of workflow components comprising at least one of an action component, an action grouping component, a branching component, a joining component and a decision component.
12. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 1, further comprising a binding component menu including a plurality of technological components employed to bind the graphical representation of the business workflow process to at least one of the plurality of technological components in the second screen area.
13. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 12, further comprising a message editor for each of the plurality of technological components.
14. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 12, the plurality of technological components comprising at least one of a component object model (COM) COM component, a script component, a message queue component and a schedule component.
15. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 1, further comprising at least one implementation port that couples at least one workflow component to the at least one technological component.

09/800,163

MS150965.01/MSFTP115US

16. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 15, further including a data flow screen that illustrates data flow between the at least one implementation port and the at least one technological component.

17. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 15, the at least one implementation port being provided by dragging the at least one technological component into the second screen area using a user selection device.

18. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 15, further including an editable port references message properties screen employed to reorder implementation ports.

19. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 18, the editable port references message properties screen being further employed to launch an editable port properties screen, the editable port properties screen being employed to at least one of add, delete and edit port messages or arguments.

20. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 1, further including a binding wizard for defining the at least one technological component, the binding wizard being invoked by dragging the at least one technological component into the second screen area with a user selection device.

21. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 1, the computer-readable medium employed to convert the graphical representation of the business workflow process into executable code.

09/800,163

MS150965.01/MSFTP115US

22. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium having computer executable instructions for employing a business process scheduling program, comprising:  
a plurality of schedule tool components employed to create a representation of a business process schedule according to a set of predefined rules; and  
a conversion component employed to convert the schedule to executable code;  
wherein the plurality of schedule tool components comprises at least one action component for defining actions in a business process schedule and at least one action grouping component for grouping the at least one action component, and the action components grouped by the at least one action grouping component are selectable between an associated state and a non-associated state.
23. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 22, further comprising at least one binding tool component employed to bind the representation of the business process schedule to at least one technological component.
24. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 22, further including an input screen for inputting interfaces and methods of the at least one technological component.
25. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 22, further including a data flow connection sheet screen employed to view data flow between the business process schedule and the at least one technological component.
- 26-27. (Canceled)
28. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 22 ~~27~~, a control flow flowing to an action component grouped by an action grouping component having an associated state will automatically connect to a connection point on the action grouping component.
29. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 22 ~~26~~, a control flow flowing to an action component grouped by an action grouping component having a non-associated state will allow a direct connection to a connection point on the action component.

09/800,163

MS150965.01/MSFTP115US

30. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 22 ~~26~~, an action grouping component having a non-associated state will not have a control handle for directing control flow and an action component having an associated state will have a control handle for directing control flow.

31. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 22 ~~26~~, a connection between a first action grouping component having at least one action associated with the first action grouping component and a second action grouping component having at least one action associated with the second action grouping component will automatically generate a first grouping component port on the first action grouping component and a second grouping component port on the second action grouping component on the second action grouping component and a communicates message coupling the first grouping component port to the second grouping component port.

32. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 31, deletion of one of the first action grouping component and the second action grouping component creates an implementation port of the deleted action grouping component on a separator bar.

33. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 22 ~~26~~, a control flow flowing from an action component grouped by an action grouping component having an associated state to an implementation port will automatically create a grouping component port on an edge of the action grouping component.

34. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 22 ~~26~~, the at least one action grouping component allowing only a single control flow to flow into the at least one action grouping component.

35. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 34, the at least one action grouping component being a transaction component and further including at least one of a catch code and a compensation code related to the transaction component.

09/800,163

MS150965.01/MSFTP115US

36. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 35, the transaction component being limited to two nesting levels.
37. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 22, the plurality of schedule tool components comprising at least one decision component having at least one non-editable rule.
38. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 37, the at least one decision component allowing for the addition of other rules.
39. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing the steps comprising:  
displaying a screen having a first region employed to create a representation of a business workflow process and a second region employed to bind the representation of a business workflow process to a representation of at least one technological component; and  
displaying a workflow component menu having a plurality of workflow components employed to create a business workflow process in the first screen region, the plurality of workflow components comprising at least one action component for defining actions in a business workflow process and at least one action grouping component for grouping the at least one action component.
40. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium ~~method~~ of claim 39, further comprising the step of displaying a separator bar between the first screen area and the second screen area.
41. (Canceled)

09/800,163

MS150965.01/MSFTP115US

42. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium ~~method~~ of claim 39 41, further including the step of retrieving and inserting an image into the first screen area of a selected one of the plurality of workflow components in response to a user selecting the component and dragging the component into the first screen area using a user selection device.

43. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium ~~method~~ of claim 39, further including the step of displaying an editable transaction property screen employed to relate catch code and compensation code to a transaction component in response to a user selecting a transaction component residing in the first screen area using a user selection device.

44. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium ~~method~~ of claim 39, further including the step of displaying an editable decision component property screen employed to add and delete rules to a decision component in response to a user selecting a decision component residing in the first screen area using a user selection device.

45. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium ~~method~~ of claim 44, further including the step of displaying an editable rule property screen employed to define the rules added to the decision component in response to a user selecting a button on the editable decision component property screen using a user selection device.

46. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium ~~method~~ of claim 39, further comprising the step of displaying a binding component menu including a plurality of technological components employed to bind the graphical representation of the business workflow process to at least one of the plurality of technological components.

47. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium ~~method~~ of claim 46, further including the step of displaying a message editor in response to a user selecting one of the plurality of technological components and dragging the component into the second screen area using a user selection device.

09/800,163

MS150965.01/MSFTP115US

48. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium ~~method~~ of claim 46, further including the step of displaying a binding wizard in response to a user selecting one of the plurality of technological components and dragging the component into the second screen area using a user selection device.

49. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium ~~method~~ of claim 46, further including the step of retrieving and displaying an implementation port image employed to bind a technological component to a component in a business workflow process in response to a user selecting one of the plurality of technological components and dragging the component into the second screen area using a user selection device.

50. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium ~~method~~ of claim 46, further including the step of displaying an editable port references message properties screen employed to reorder implementation ports.

51. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium ~~method~~ of claim 50, further including the step of launching an editable port properties screen, the editable port properties screen employed to at least one of add, delete and edit port messages [[and]] or arguments.

52. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium ~~method~~ of claim 39, further including the step of converting the graphical representation of the business workflow process into executable code.



09/800,163

MS150965.01/MSFTP115US

53. (Currently Amended) A system that facilitates modeling of business processes that are representable at a transaction level and an action level, the system comprising:

a graphical user interface; and

a plurality of modeling components accessible through the graphical user interface and employed to create a graphical representation of a business process and a binding of the business process to at least one technological component;

at least one implementation port coupling at least one component of the graphical representation of the business process to the technological component; and

a data flow screen illustrating data flow between the implementation port and the technological component.

54. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 53, at least a portion of the plurality of modeling components residing on a workflow component menu employed to create the graphical representation of a business workflow process in a first screen area.

55. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 53, at least a portion of the plurality of modeling components residing on a binding component menu employed to create a binding to the graphical representation of the business workflow process in a second screen area.

56-57. (Canceled)

58. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 53, the system employed to convert the graphical representation of the business workflow process into executable code.

09/800,163

MS150965.01/MSFTP115US

59. (Currently Amended) A graphical user interface program stored on a computer readable medium comprising computer executable instructions, the graphical user interface program comprising:

means for allowing a user to create a graphical representation of a business process; ~~and~~

means for allowing a user to create a binding of the graphical representation of the business process to at least one technological component; and

means for allowing a user to create a workflow component menu including a plurality of workflow components employed to create a business workflow process, the plurality of workflow components comprising at least one action component for defining actions in a business workflow process and at least one action grouping component for grouping the at least one action component.

60. (Canceled)

61. (Currently Amended) The graphical user interface program system of claim 59 ~~60~~, further including means for viewing data flow between the means for coupling and the at least one technological component.

62. (Currently Amended) The graphical user interface program system of claim 59, further including means for converting the graphical representation of the business process into executable code.